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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Ulrich BANTLE  
Jürgen ESCHLE

Title: END-STOP DAMPER

Based Upon: PCT/EP2004/013503

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**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

**Mail Stop PCT**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Please amend the subject U.S. Patent Application as follows to place this U.S. Patent Application in better condition for examination.

**In the claims from the verified English language translation, substitute the following Claims 1-26 (Currently Amended) for the pending Claims 1-26 (Original) from the PCT Article 36 Amendment.**